

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 16, 2011

The Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to respectfully request expedited approval of Governor Mitch Daniels' request for a Major Disaster Area Declaration for the State of Indiana and Hazard Mitigation statewide as a result of the severe winter storms that began on January 31, 2011 and continued through February 4, 2011. Additionally, we support the Governor's request for Individual and Public Assistance and Small Business Administration (SBA) loans for those communities affected by the recent storm.

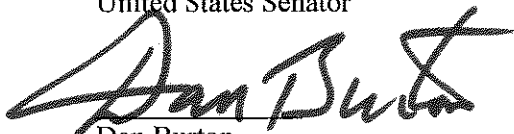
The entire State of Indiana experienced catastrophic ice accumulations, blizzard conditions and high winds, resulting in widespread and severe damage throughout the State but particularly hard hit were the counties of Benton, Boone, Brown, Carroll, Cass, Clay, Clinton, Decatur, Delaware, Fayette, Fountain, Franklin, Grant, Greene, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Henry, Jay, Madison, Marion, Monroe, Montgomery, Morgan, Owen, Parke, Putnam, Randolph, Ripley, Rush, Shelby, Starke, Sullivan, Tipton, Union, Vermillion, Virgo, Warren and Wayne.

State and local agencies have provided timely assistance to those in need, and Hoosiers have responded to this disaster with typical strength and generosity. We fully appreciate that the federal government is facing an unprecedented budget crisis. However, the Governor has determined that this incident is of "such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the state and affected local governments" alone; timely federal assistance is therefore needed. We support this assessment and respectfully ask your Administration to move as expeditiously as possible to release federal resources to the state. We thank you for your consideration of this request, and please do not hesitate to contact us regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



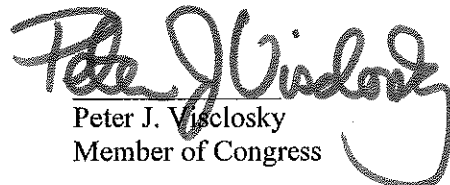
Richard G. Lugar
United States Senator




Dan Burton
Member of Congress





Daniel Coats
United States Senator




Peter J. Visclosky
Member of Congress



Mike Pence
Member of Congress



Marlin Stutzman
Member of Congress



Larry Buschon
Member of Congress


Todd Young
Member of Congress

cc:
Administrator W. Craig Fugate
Federal Emergency Management Agency


Joe Donnelly
Member of Congress


Andre Carson
Member of Congress


Todd Rokita
Member of Congress